

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

Addendum

MIHP Number: CARR-749

Property Name: Francis H. Orendorff House (Gilbert's Inn)

Property Address: 900 Littlestown Pike (MD 97)
Westminster, Maryland

The Francis H. Orendorff House located at 900 Littlestown Pike has been demolished according to the *Phase I Cultural Resources Survey Report* prepared for the Carroll County Regional Airport by Coastal Caroline Research.

Demolished

CARR-749

FRANCIS H. ORENDORFF HOUSE

1863

Westminster vicinity

private

The Francis H. Orendorff House was built in 1863 for a prominent Westminster business family. Its architecture depicts an excellent example of the Victorian influences on the rural tradition of farmhouse styles in central Maryland. The basic characteristics of the regional farmhouse remain intact while the house projects its up-to-date styling through the use of Victorian style ornamentation, including a bracket cornice and elaborate porch trim with circular-designed brackets, stick cornice and patterned bannister. The property was maintained as a fashionable and substantial farm until the early 20th century when it was converted to an inn. During the 1970's, the house was vacant which caused some deterioration and the outbuildings were demolished.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Demolished

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Francis H. Orendorff House

and/or common Gilbert's Inn, Edgewood

2. Location

street & number 900 Littlestown Pike (MD 97) ___ not for publication

city, town Westminster ___ vicinity of congressional district Sixth

state Maryland county Carroll

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|---|--|--|---|
| ___ district | ___ public | ___ occupied | ___ agriculture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | ___ commercial |
| ___ structure | ___ both | ___ work in progress | ___ educational |
| ___ site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | ___ entertainment |
| ___ object | ___ in process | ___ yes: restricted | ___ government |
| | ___ being considered | ___ yes: unrestricted | ___ industrial |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no | ___ military |
| | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant |

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Marada Industries, Inc.

street & number 1170 Business Parkway South telephone no.: 876-8000

city, town Westminster state and zip code Maryland 21157

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carroll County Courthouse Annex liber

street & number 55 North Court Street folio

city, town Westminster state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Westminster Planning District Survey

date August 1983 ___ federal ___ state ☒ county ___ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis, state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-749

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☒ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SUMMARY:

The Francis H. Orendorff House is an excellent example of the influences of the Victorian period on the Pennsylvania German Traditional farmhouse in Carroll County. The structure has the representative features of a two story brick building with a symmetrical facade and an L-shaped plan. The inner side of the ell has a double tiered porch and the main facade has a one-story full length front porch. Built in 1863, the structure contains a number of ornamental features from the Victorian period including a bracket cornice and elaborate porch trim that includes circular-design brackets, stick cornice, and patterned banister.

DESCRIPTION:

The Francis H. Orendorff House contains the basic characteristics of a Pennsylvania German farmhouse found in Carroll County. It is a two-story brick structure in an L-shaped plan. It is constructed of brick laid in common bond on a fieldstone foundation. The main facade (faces west) has a central entrance with a full-length, one-story porch. The inner side of the ell has a double-tiered porch. The structure has a gable roof covered in sheet metal with interior-end brick chimneys at each gable end.

The main facade of the structure is five bays wide with a central entrance on the first story. The entrance has side lights and a wide transom with molded woodwork. The outer bays of the first story and the five bays of the second story have six-over-six pane sash windows. All the windows on the house have flat jack-arch brick lintels. The first story windows of the house have paneled shutters and the second story windows have louvered shutters. The main facade has a bracket cornice with each bracket containing a finial drop in the corners with a double bracket with two drops. The full-length, one-story porch sits on brick piers and has Victorian style trim. The trim includes chamfered posts with stylized-design brackets, stick cornice, and a patterned banister.

The north facade is six bays long consisting of two bays in the gable end of the main section and four bays across the ell. There is one entrance on this facade located in the third bay from the east on the ell. This entrance had a one-bay entrance porch supported by square posts and engaged pilasters against the wall. The porch, which has since collapsed, covered a single entrance with transom. At the basement level are two small windows covered with decorative cast-iron ornamental grilles. Windows on the first and second story are identical in design to those on the rest of the house. In the gable end are two two-over-two windows with louvered shutters. The gable cornice is plain and the ell cornice has a plain bracket.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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1

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Page

Description

The east facade of the ell has a brick wall unfenestrated except for two two-over-two windows in the gable. An interior-end brick chimney with corbelled cap rises at this end. The east facade of the main section has windows on the first and second stories of the two southern bays and in the center bay are doors on the first and second stories that open onto the double-tiered porch. The south facade of the ell is four bays wide. The easternmost bay is constructed of brick and encloses the inset double-tiered porch at the east side. The double-tiered porch fronts on the other three bays and has chamfered posts and spindle banisters. There are two dormer windows on the gable roof of the ell. The east side of the gable end is unfenestrated except for two-over-two windows in the gable.

The property also contains farm outbuildings which have since been destroyed. A large frame bank barn stood on the north side of the house close to the Littlestown Pike until it was demolished in 1983. This frame bank barn is described in a newspaper article of 1885 as being 46 by 88 feet with stabling for twelve head of horses and 25 head of cattle. The newspaper article also described the house as having a large lawn landscaped with shade trees and an arrangement of the following outbuildings: a two-story brick smoke or meat house; a frame dairy; a two-story wash house; a fruit-drying house and a bake-oven; a wood house; a hog house for 30 to 40 hogs; a poultry house; a house for agricultural and mechanical implements; a corncrib; and a carriage house.

8. Significance

Survey No.

CARR-749

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

| | | | |
|----------------|------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Specific dates | 1863 | Builder/Architect | Francis H. Orendorff |
|----------------|------|-------------------|----------------------|

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/orApplicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ GLevel of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SUMMARY:

The Francis H. Orendorff house was built in 1863 for a prominent Westminster business family. Its architecture depicts an excellent example of the Victorian influences on the rural tradition of farmhouse styles in central Maryland. The basic characteristics of the regional farmhouse remain intact while the house projects its up-to-date styling through the use of Victorian style ornamentation. The property was maintained as a fashionable and substantial farm until the early 20th century when it was converted to an inn. Over the last decade the house has been vacant and the farm outbuildings have been demolished.

HISTORY:

The Francis H. Orendorff house presents an example of a substantial farmhouse constructed in the mid-nineteenth century. Its characteristics show a traditional regional farmhouse type, with its two-story brick construction with a symmetrical facade and L-shape plan, being influenced by a national Victorian style of architecture by the ornamentation of its porch, cornice, and other details. The house was built by Francis H. Orendorff in 1863 and was part of a large farm. The property contained a frame bank barn and numerous farm outbuildings.

The house has been recognized in the Westminster area since its construction as a prominent property for its impressive architectural character. In a newspaper series of 1885-86 that described prominent farms in Carroll County, the Francis H. Orendorff house was included as "one of the most desirable residences within the limits of the county." The article provides some background on the history of the property. The land originally belonged to the Mathias family, and came into ownership of Mr. John Orendorff, who had married Mrs. Mary M. Mathias. Their son, Francis H. Orendorff constructed the farmhouse and outbuildings and landscaped the premises. In 1882, the 122 1/2 acre property was sold to Edward S. Baile for \$16,600.

One of the historical highlights of the property is the fact that General J. E. B. Stewart spent the night in the house on his way to the Battle of Gettysburg. The house was not completely finished at that time in 1863, but General Stewart found it as a convenient stopping place on his way north to Gettysburg.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-749

1877 Atlas of Carroll County12/19/1885 Democratic Advocate "Edgewood - The Residence of Edward S. Baile"

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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Verbal boundary description and justification _____

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joe Getty

organization Carroll County Planning Dept.

date December 1984

street & number 225 North Center Street

telephone 848-4500

city or town Westminster

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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date entered

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Page

History:

The newspaper article describes the farm operation at the farm in 1885. Apparently, the property was farmed before the house was constructed because the article states that the large farm bank barn was constructed by Mr. John Orendorff. The barn is complimented for its size and construction. Other outbuildings listed include a brick smoke or meat house, a frame dairy, a two-story wash house, a fruit drying house and bake oven, a wood house, a thirty-to-forty hog house, a poultry house, a tool shed, a corncrib, and a carriage house. The farm is described as being enclosed with chestnut post-and-rail fencing divided into seven fields. It also describes Mr. Baile's plans to have the farm enclosed with Osage Orange Hedge, a population landscaping technique of the period. Mr. Baile's methods of rotating crops and improving the land are also described.

CARR - 749

GILBERT'S INN

mid-19th century'

Littlestown Pike
Westminster vicinity

private

Gilbert's Inn is a very fashionable mid-nineteenth century brick house that was operated as an inn during the mid-twentieth century. The house appears to have been built by the Orndorff family, which owned several Westminster businesses. The house contains the basic regional farmhouse characteristics but was highly ornamented for its period. Ornamentation included cast-iron decorative grilles over the basement windows, elaborate porch trim with circular brackets, stick cornices, and patterned bannister, and a highly decorative bracket cornice.



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

225. N. Center Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157

WESTMINSTER PLANNING DISTRICT

FIELD SHEET--HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY

m 39 p 1 112
SUFVEY NUMBER:

CARR-749

NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:

UTM REFERENCES:

Zone/Easting/Northing

U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:

WESTMINSTER

PRESENT FORMAL NAME:

ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:

PRESENT USE: Abandoned

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:

Excellent () Good ()

Fair () Poor (X)

THEME:

STYLE: Victorian

DATE BUILT:

mid 19th c.

COUNTY: CARROLL

TOWN: WESTMINSTER VIC

LOCATION: L. Hutton Pike (map)

TAX MAP 39 Block 1-P-1

COMMON NAME:

FUNCTIONAL TYPE: residence

OWNER: Stenerson Realty Co.

ADDRESS:

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:

Yes () No (X) Restricted ()

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Local () State () National ()

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

1. Foundation: Stone (X) Brick () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
2. Wall Structure
 - A. Wood: Log () Post and Beam () Balloon ()
 - B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick (X) Stone () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
 - C. Iron () D. Steel () E. Other
3. Wall Covering: Weatherboard () German Siding () Board and Batten ()
Wood Shingle () Shiplap () Novelty () Stucco () Sheet Metal ()
Aluminum () Asphalt Shingle () Brick Veneer () Stone Veneer ()
Bonding Pattern: Other:
4. Roof Structure
 - A. Truss: Wood (X) Iron () Steel () Concrete ()
 - B. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate () Wood Shingle () Asphalt Shingle () Sheet Metal ()
Built Up () Rolled () Tile () Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:

Appendages: Porches (X) Towers () Cupolas () Dormers () Chimneys () Sheds ()
Ells (X) Wings () Other:Roof Style: Gable (X) Hip () Shed () Flat () Mansard () Gambrel () Jerkinhead ()
Saw Tooth () With Monitor () With Bellcast () With Parapet ()
With False Front () Other:

Number of Stories: 1

Number of Bays: 5 x 2

Approximate Dimensions:

Entrance Location: Center

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:

No Threat () Zoning () Roads ()

Development () Deterioration ()

Alteration () Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:

Positive () Negative ()

Mixed () Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Excellent examples of period ornamentation - bracket with pendant cornice, ornamental porch trim.

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

None

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

excellent example of Victorian style as applied in rural area

REFERENCES:

1862 Martenet's Map:

1877 LG & S Atlas: F. H. Orendorff

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Lane () Woodland () Scattered Buildings ()
Moderately Built Up () Densely-Built Up ()
Residential () Commercial ()
Agricultural () Industrial ()
Roadside Strip Development ()
Other:

RECORDED BY:

Joe Getty

ORGANIZATION:

DATE RECORDED:

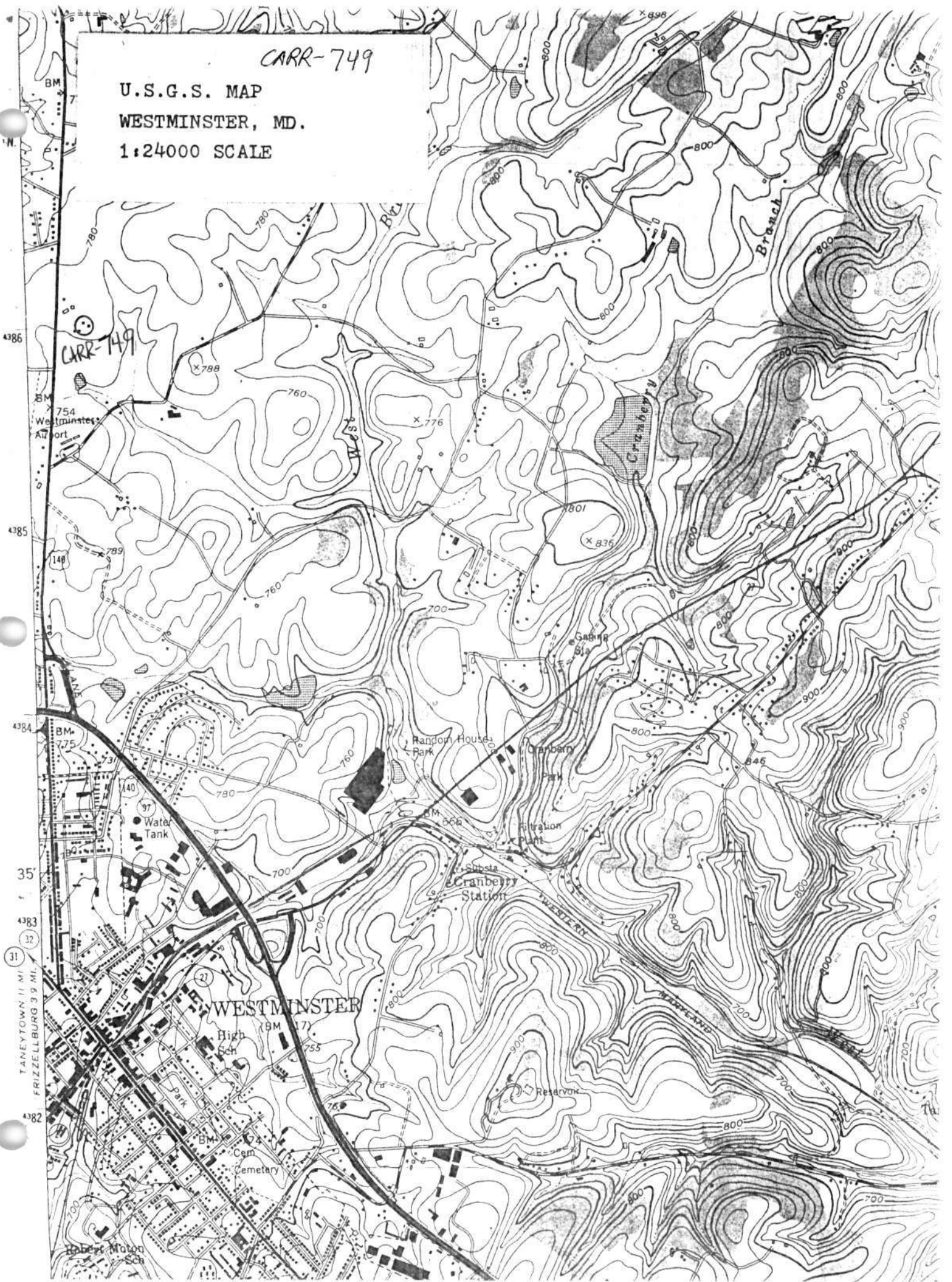
7/11/83

CARR-749



CARR-749

U.S.G.S. MAP
WESTMINSTER, MD.
1:24000 SCALE



4386

4385

4384

35'

4383

32

31

TANEYTOWN 11 MI

FRIZZELLBURG 3.9 MI

4382

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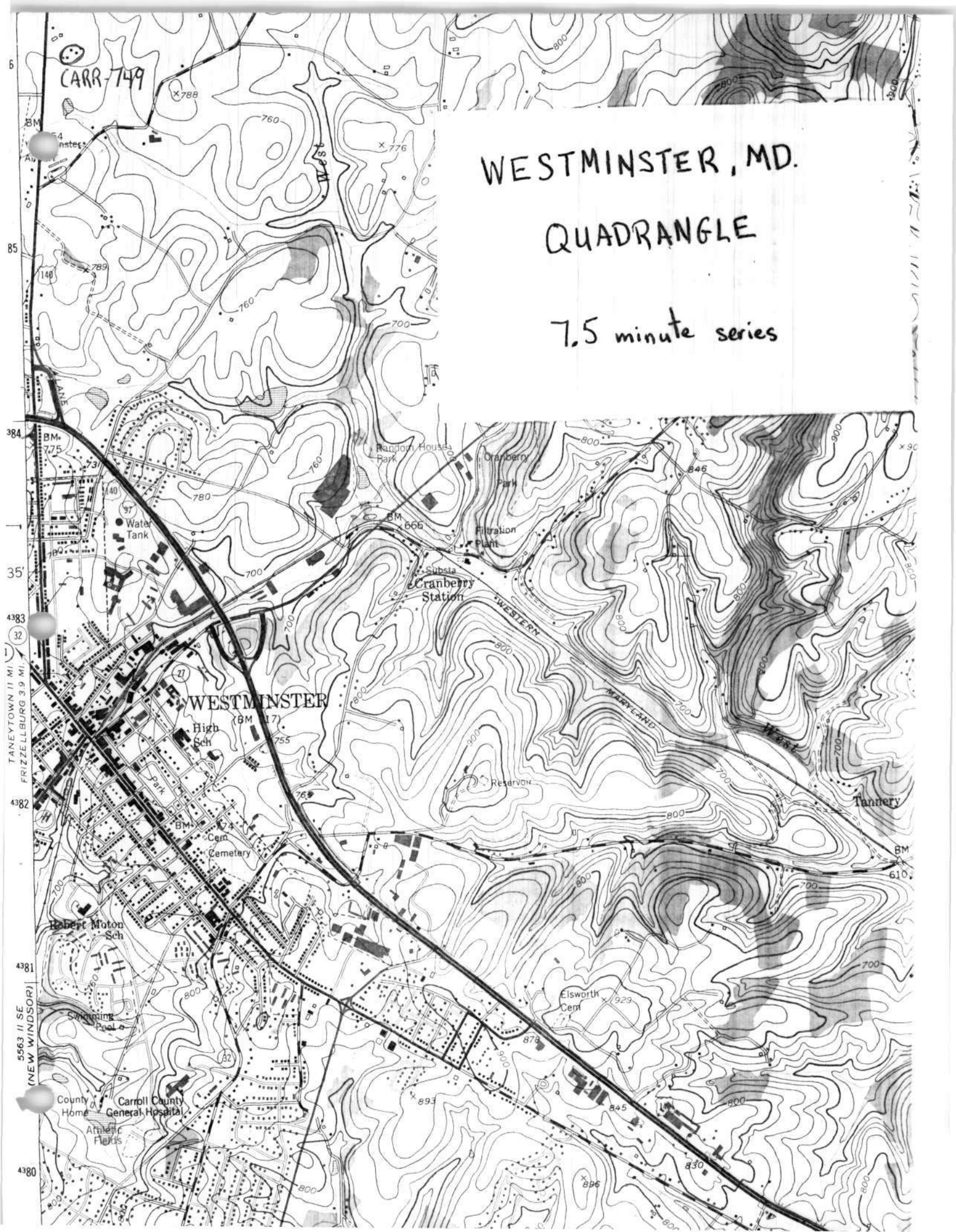
24

23

WESTMINSTER, MD.

QUADRANGLE

7.5 minute series



CARR-749

85

384

35

4383

32

4382

4381

5563 II SE

(NEW WINDSOR)

4380

TANEY TOWN 11 MI.
FRIZZELLBURG 3.9 MI.



1. CARR-749 Francis H. Orendorff House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. August 1984
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. west & north elevation



1. CARR-749 Francis H. Orendorff House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. August 1984
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. west & south elevation

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MANUFACTURED
BY KODAK

PAPER
MADE IN
USA



1. CARR-749 Francis H. Orendorff House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. August 1984
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. west elevation



1. CARR-749 Francis H. Orendorff House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. August 1984
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6. east & south elevation



1. CARR-749 Francis H. Orendorff House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. August 1984
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. north elevation



1. CARR-749 Francis H. Orendorff House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. August 1984
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. porch bracket detail

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1. CARR-749 Francis H. Orendorff House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. August 1984
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Bracket cornice detail



CARR-749

1. Gilbert's Inn
2. Carroll Co. Md.
3. J. Getty
4. 8/83
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis Md.
6. south west elevation
7. 1/2



CARR-749

CARR-749

1. Gilbert's Inn
2. Carroll Co., Md.
3. J. Getty
4. 8/83
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. northwest elevation
7. 2/2